



State Partnership to Improve Quality: Understanding Critical Success Factors

February 10 – 11, 2009

Boston

**Presentation by Marcia Nielsen, PhD, MPH
Executive Director, Kansas Health Policy Authority**

KANSAS HEALTH POLICY AUTHORITY BACKGROUND:

- KHPA is a quasi-independent unclassified agency created by the legislature in 2005, and led by a Board of Directors appointed by the Governor and legislative leadership
- KHPA is charged in statute with gathering and compiling a wide array of Kansas health related data that is used to guide policy development and inform the public
- Additionally, KHPA is charged in statute with providing development of a statewide health policy agenda including health care and health promotion components
- KHPA operates in a very transparent way, with numerous advisory groups and regular Board meetings, which are all open to the public.

The Kansas Approach to Consumer Engagement

- Multi-pronged: technological infrastructure (Data Analytic Interface, Community Health Record), multi-stakeholder political process (Data Consortium, Advisory Councils), and consumer health transparency and literacy (Kansas Health Online)
- Consumer engagement, empowerment, personal responsibility, and health literacy are an essential part of these initiatives
- One of the six vision principles of KHPA is education and engagement of the public
- KHPA works hard to promote transparency in everything we do

Kansas Health Online (KHO)

The Kansas Health Online Consumer Transparency Portal (www.kansashealthonline.org) was launched in January 2008. It is dedicated to informing health consumers by empowering them with resources to stay healthy, manage their medical conditions, navigate the health system, improve their health literacy, purchase health care, compare provider quality and understand health policy.

- Two-phase health information transparency initiative for consumers launched in January 2008
- Phase 1 – State Library created web portal, called Kansas Health Online, collecting existing health and Health care resources
- Unique feature – collaboration with library networks embedded in consumer communities for effective outreach
- Also occurring – National Library of Medicine development (Kansas Go Local) which brings information to local health care services and support groups for Kansas consumers
- Kansas Go Local will be integrated with KHO
- A health information curriculum will also be established to educate Kansas consumers
- Phase 2 - Kansas-specific health quality and cost measures recommended to the KHPA Board by the Data Consortium (which consists of health care stakeholders in Kansas) will be developed and made available to consumers
- Through the Data Consortium, Kansas providers, consumers, researchers, and other stakeholders will play a significant role in developing the indicators used for this public reporting
- Many members of the four KHPA Advisory Councils and other interested stakeholders commented on the need for health care cost and quality information
- Seventeen consumer focus groups were conducted across Kansas in 2008 to gather feedback from consumers and increase awareness of KHO

Data Analytic Interface

This initiative aims to consolidate and manage health care data for several state programs managed by KHPA, including the Medicaid Management Information System, the State Employee Health Benefit Program, and the Kansas Health Insurance Information System. It also allows analysis of health care based on episodes of treatment, disease management, predictive modeling, and the measure of cost and outcome effectiveness. This web-based tool is being designed to use public and private data to compare the health care service and utilization patterns, identify trends and areas for focus and improvement

- Will allow KHPA staff and other stakeholders easy and quick access to KHPA-managed data
- Procured from Thomson Reuters following a competitive bidding process
- Web-based software will provide a unified, user-friendly interface to data from the Medicaid Management Information System, State Employee Health Benefit Plan, and Kansas Health Insurance Information System
- Will also incorporate integrated analytical tools to allow:
 - analysis of episodes of care of individual beneficiaries across multiple encounters with the health care system
 - disease management
 - predictive modeling, evaluative analysis
 - benchmarking with national health market measures to measure and compare utilization patterns, costs, and outcomes
- Implementation is expected to be complete by December 2009

HIE/HIT

- Two pilot projects use a Community Health Record to help deliver timely and accurate health information; one for Medicaid beneficiaries and another State Employees
- Both CHR pilot projects are built on administrative claims data (from health plans) and provides clinicians electronic access to claimed medical visits, procedures, diagnoses, medications, demographics, allergies and sensitivities, immunizations, vital signs, and lead screening and health maintenance data. The record also contains an e-Prescribing component that enhances the clinician's workflow, reduces the risk of medication error caused by inadequate or unavailable patient information, and increases safety and health outcomes associated with prescription generation
- In February 2008, Governor Sebelius asked KHPA to serve as the lead agency in guiding the development and administration of statewide health information technology and exchange; she requested KHPA to establish a Kansas E-Health Information Advisory Council to provide guidance on policy issues related to health information technology as well as educational resources for stakeholders interesting in health information technology and exchange
- The E-health Advisory council will build on the last four years of work on HIT/HIE initiatives through the Kansas HISPC I, II, and III projects and the HIE Commission and is closely following opportunities for EHR expansion in the federal stimulus package.

KHPA Data Consortium

- A multi-stakeholder advisory committee of key government agencies, hospitals, physicians, insurers, purchasers and consumers
- Charged to select the health and health care measures and indicators used to create a publicly reported state dashboard of access, quality, cost and public health measures
- One of the statutory missions of KHPA is to leverage the State's health and health care data for health reform via data-driven policy
- The Data Consortium is comprised of 90+ members and four work groups, representing over 22 health industry stakeholders
- After 24 meetings over an 11-month period, the first set of indicators was established and is now available on KHPA's website
- The KHPA Board adopted a list of nearly 90 different measures divided into four categories that are aligned with the KHPA Board's vision principles: Access to Care; Health and Wellness; Quality and Efficiency; and Affordability and Sustainability. These measures are presented as concise graphics and tables that show baseline and historical trends along with benchmark information for comparison to national and peer state data.
- Indicators and measures will be rolled out on a tiered approach:
 - Tier 1 – data already collected, computed routinely, with a high degree of integrity
 - Tier 2 – data routinely collected, but not checked for integrity and not publicly reported – will require further analysis (The focus for 2009)
 - Tier 3 – data required for the measure is not routinely collected (The focus for 2009 or 2010)